

Parishes of Mater Dei Blakehurst & St Raphael's South Hurstville

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary
time - Year A

Bulletin

18th June 2023

Entrance Antiphon : Cf. Ps 26:7,9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

First Reading: Ex 19:2-6

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age.

(R.)

Second Reading: Rom 5:6-11

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

Gospel : Mt 9:36 – 10:8

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 26:4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The portrait of Jesus that is painted by the gospel of Matthew is as the one who has come to fulfil the Jewish tradition. This is sometimes incorrectly interpreted as being anti-Jewish but that is not the case at all. The community for whom Matthew was writing were Jewish Christians and they saw the pathway taught by Jesus as the best way to live out the Jewish tradition. It is in this context that today's gospel passage must be considered. The way the commissioning of the Twelve begins is very significant: 'When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.' This is the gospel writer describing the people of Israel as a whole – harassed and dejected and without a shepherd. For the Matthew community, Jesus was that shepherd the Jews needed. But Jesus also knew that one person alone could not bring about the change within Judaism that was required. He chose the Twelve and named them as apostles (those who are sent) to continue the work that he had begun.

The gospel writer describes Jesus as giving the apostles 'authority' over unclean spirits. For the Matthew community, authority was a defining question. They had recently been expelled from the Jewish synagogues and the authority of Jesus had been called into doubt. Yet, for this community, real authority lay with Jesus and those whom he sent out to do his work. Throughout this gospel, Jesus is described as exhibiting 'authority' so as to reaffirm to the original community that they were right in choosing to follow the way of Jesus and not bend to the authority of the Jewish leaders who were oppressing them.

Scriptural context – The House of Israel

The gospel passage has Jesus telling his newly commissioned apostles to go only to the House of Israel, not to go to Samaritans or into pagan territory; the ministry of the apostles is only to be addressed to Jews. But this is the first part of a two-phase ministry. At the conclusion of the gospel, the Risen Jesus directs his followers to 'make disciples of all the nations'. For the Matthew community, (unlike the community of Luke) it was the House of Israel that needed renewal first before the message of Jesus could be taken to gentile and pagan communities.

Have you thought? – The labourers are few

This passage is often used as the basis for sermons, conversations or even marketing about vocations – vocations to religious life as well as lay vocations. The image of a rich harvest with not enough labourers to reap the harvest is a powerful one. In the Western world in particular today it is very true of priestly and religious vocations. However, it is equally true of lay vocations. Too few people are prepared to 'own' their faith and live the message of the gospel in their day to day work and interactions with others. In what way are you a labourer in the harvest?

Living the Gospel – Apostles, not disciples

There is a lovely distinction in this gospel passage between disciples and apostles. Jesus calls his twelve disciples, commissions them and sends them out to continue his work. From then on, they are referred to as 'apostles'. Disciples are followers, but apostles have been sent out. In our own lives we are called to accept the challenge of being apostles, not disciples. For we are not just followers, we have been sent out by Jesus to continue his work. To be a disciple is just the first step. Disciples follow a path; apostles take the initiative and forge their own path.

MASS TIMES		
	St Raphael Church	Mater Dei Church
Tues		9:15am Mass
Wed		8:45am Rosary, Novena 9:15am Mass
Thurs	9:15am Mass	
Friday	7:30pm Adoration	8:45am Adoration 9:15am Mass
Sat	4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	6:15pm Vigil mass is on 1st & 3rd Sat (Next mass is on 17th June)
Sunday	8:00am Mass 6:00pm Croatian Mass	10:00am Mass

Chaplains required at St George Hospital

They are offering orientation training for new volunteer chaplains over August and September 2023. This training will be from 9:30am to 3:30pm over 5 Thursdays, starting 24 August and will be held at the hospital. If you are interested in this training to join our chaplains' team, please contact us ASAP via email so we can send you the application form, information on the mandatory pre-requisites and what hospital chaplaincy looks like at St George.

Please contact Sashi Grayndler (Chaplaincy Services Co-ordinator) by phone on 02 9113 2189 or email sashi.grayndler@health.nsw.gov.au for any queries.

17th/18th June (3rd Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5:00pm	8:00am	6:15pm	10:00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Earl Lappen Carl Pavia	Ray Low	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteers	Yenson Family	Family Mass	Jolly Jose Wendy E
24th/25th June (4th Sunday)	St. Raphael's		Mater Dei	
	5:00pm	8:00am		10:00am
Acolytes	Greg Driver	Michael F Norman Y	No Vigil Mass	Volunteer
Readers	Volunteers	Lappen Family		Lucy M Phil M

Pray for good health of : Anne Lo, Sunga Family, Adele Shehata, Anna Liza Torres Zapata, Yin Kwan Tsang.

Pray for the deceased: Mary Toohey, Briege Robson, Eric Fox, Monica O'Brien, Jeffrey Bishop, Fr Isidore, Antonius Widjaja, Holy Souls in purgatory.

ROSARY

St Raphael's Church	Mater Dei Church
Every Monday at 7:30pm with Blessed Sacrament	Every Sunday 9:30am before the 10am mass

Mater Dei Home Rosary

20-6-2023	Titsiana 11 Louisa Street Oatley	11-00 AM
27-6-2023	Josephine & Tony Ledonne 61 Castle Street Blakehurst	7-00 PM
All are welcome		

VERY RELIGIOUS HUSBAND

A Husband COMES HOME FROM CHURCH; he GREETs His wife AND LIFTS her UP. He THEN CARRIES her AROUND THE HOUSE. THE Wife IS SO SURPRISED AND she ASKS, "DID THE BISHOP PREACH ABOUT BEING ROMANTIC?" THE husband replies, "NO, HE SAID WE MUST CARRY OUR BURDENS AND SORROWS."

SMILE A WHILE, AND GIVE YOUR FACE A REST!

Parish Renewal Workshop for Mater Dei and St Raphael Parishes

The "Renewed for Mission" talk was presented by Tania Rimac and Helen Wagner from Parish Renewal team, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. 31 people attended.

Helen led us through personal reflection: Why do we come to church and why is it important to share the good news with others.

We watched a clip from CHOSEN (drama series) about Peter's encounter with Christ after the large catch of fish which filled the boat to sinking point. We then shared in small groups, a time when we might have had a similar encounter with Christ in our own lives. Being aware of our deep personal encounters and sharing with others is important to the success of a parish community life.

We learnt about "The Kerygma" which was broken down in 7 points:

1. God loves you and has a plan for your life, 2. Sin ruptured our relationship with God, 3. Jesus died to restore this relationship, 4. Repent and believe in the Gospel (conversion), 5. Be baptised and receive the Holy Spirit, 6. Abide in Christ and his body, the Church, 7. Go make disciples.

We learnt how to see our parish through a "Kerygmatic Lens" by using some examples of church activities.

Next steps suggested to build our parish community: 1. Corporate Intercessory Prayer 2. Current parish ministry reflection, 3. Individual reflection on life and relationships.

Introducing

St Michael's Charismatic Prayer Group
At Mater Dei Church from 13th July 2023
Every Thursday night.

Rosary:	6:30pm
Praise and Worship:	7:00 pm
Talk or Healing Mass:	7:30 pm


Diary Dates:

July 13	Healing Mass	Fr George from Divine Centre
July 20	Understanding Healing	Ron Maldigri
July 27	Hour of Power / Eucharistic Adoration	

The Catholic Weekly

- 18 June 2023 PULPIT POINTS
- Walk with Christ 2023: Well over 10,000 hit the streets of Sydney for Corpus Christi (p1, 12-14)
 - Archbishop Fisher on Corpus Christi: Why we still need public proclamations of faith (p8-9)
 - King's Birthday honours: Catholics honoured for service to our nation (p4)
 - Grandmother slain by taser Clare Nowland laid to rest (p5)
 - Melbourne Eucharistic "miracle" may be more mundane (p7)
 - Monica Doumit in the USA (p11)

This week the Catholic Church of Mater Dei, Blakehurst warmly welcomes

 **Lavinia, Klemens & Rihanna Choi and Annabelle & Aaron Li**

Congratulations to the families!

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Thomas Alukka

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MATER DEI CATHOLIC CHURCH

1008 King Georges Road, Blakehurst 2221, NSW

ST. RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

84 George Street, South Hurstville

Website: <https://www.materdei-straphael.org.au/>

Parish Secretary: Juliana Widjaja

Office hours: Tues & Wed 9:30am - 2:30pm
Phone: 02 9546 2605

Email: admin@materdei-straphael.org.au

Parish Ministry Coordinator & Safeguarding Officer Michael Fernandes

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 10am - 2:30pm
M: 0437 517 758 E: mc@materdei-straphael.org.au

Pastoral Ministry Coordinator: Br. Ben Krupowicz
Phone: 02 95462544 Email: strsh@outlook.com

Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz : Phone: 0412 786 245

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

TYPE	St Raphael's	Mater Dei
First	345.75	155.70
Second: loose	637.10	427.05
Envelopes	110.00	330.00